

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00446 180240Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
/086 W

-----084755 181030Z /16

R 171530Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7263
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

UNCLAS NICOSIA 0446

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU
SUBJECT: DENKTASH "MINISTRY OF COOPERATION" PROPOSAL

1. GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS FEB. 16 CARRIED A REUTERS DISPATCH
CONCERNING A CONVERSATION TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH HAD
WITH BRITISH JOURNALISTS FEB. 14. DENKTASH REPORTEDLY PRO-
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POSED THE FORMATION OF A "MINISTRY OF COOPERATION" WHICH HE
BELIEVED WOULD HELP BRING GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS TOGETHER
BY IDENTIFYING AREAS FOR JOINT EFFORTS.

2. DENKTASH "PROPOSAL" DREW IMMEDIATE AND NEGATIVE
REACTIONS FROM GREEK CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR TASSO PAPA-
DOPOULOS, THE PIO AND CRITICAL PRESS EDITORIALS FEB. 17.

PAPADOPOULOS STATED DENKTASH HAD PROPOSED SAME THING AT VIENNA VI ROUND AND THAT PROPOSAL WAS "PARADOXICAL AND DANGEROUS" IN THAT IT WOULD ASSIGN TO THE MINISTRY SUPER POWERS WHICH OUGHT TO BE VESTED IN A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. THE PIO ON BACKGROUND TOLD PRESS THAT DENKTASH PROPOSAL WOULD TURN POWERS WHICH SHOULD BE MATTER OF GOVERNMENTAL JURISDICTION INTO A MATTER OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES. FURTHER, THE PROPOSAL WOULD "CONSOLIDATE THE PRINCIPLE OF CONFEDERATION RATHER THAN FEDERATION."

3. MASS CIRCULATION PHILELEFTHEROS EDITORIALIZED THAT DENKTASH WAS ATTEMPTING TO ALLAY TURKISH CYPRIOT CONCERN OVER BEING POSSIBLY SEPARATED FROM THE GREEK CYPRIOTS BY SUGARCOATING THE "BITTER PILL HE WANTS TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO SWALLOW." PRO-GOVERNMENT ELEFTHERI KYPROS PREDICTED THAT NO ONE WOULD BE FOOLED BY DENKTASH'S ATTEMPT TO SECURE ACCEPTANCE FOR HIS AIM OF A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. TURKISH CYPRIOT PRESS HAS NOT SO FAR REPORTED ON DENKTASH COMMENTS.

4. COMMENT: PROMPT NEGATIVE RESPONSE FROM GOC TRACKS WITH ITS CURRENT THEME THAT FORTHCOMING TURKISH PROPOSAL WILL NOT BE ENOUGH TO PERMIT RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS.

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TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU
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